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Borough of Warwick



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1959

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1961

38, HOLLY WALK,

LEAMINGTON SPA.

August 4th, 1960.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
WARWICK

Mr. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to report to you upon the health of the district for 1959 and am pleased to be able to do sooner than has been possible in several recent years when the staff of the department was too small to deal with the expansion of work.

A fall of 30 in population took place and there was only a small excess of births over deaths. Although many towns in central Warwickshire have grown in recent years, Warwick has increased by 700 only in a decade. At the moment the population has a normal age grouping and there is neither excess of old nor lack of young people to account for the shrinking gap between birth and death. This may, however, not long continue if natural growth and expansion is denied.

Housing.—Although many families were delayed in being rehoused, the Council again made a number of demolition and closing orders. With fresh progress in the East End clearance area well over a hundred condemned houses were vacated in 1959. To this list can be added growing totals of older houses being made habitable with the aid of improvement grants. Most of these were discretionary grants averaging over £250 and some were applied to the modernization of timber-framed dwellings of an age and character which the Borough could ill have afforded to lose. There is also a noticeable improvement in the standard of property maintenance generally.

Clean Air.—The Council's first smoke control order came into force late in the year and has been observed by the great majority of residents upon the Percy Estate. Measurements of air pollution have been made regularly for the Warwickshire Clean Air Council. Approaches were made to several managements in regard to complaints of smoke nuisance. These complaints concerned both a new school and a hospital among others.

Food and Drugs.—It was still not possible to make

frequent visits to food premises because of other heavy commitments. However, some necessary improvements were secured including a review by the Council of catering facilities at its own racecourse. Two prosecutions were successfully undertaken.

Water Supply.—Bacteriological chemical and mineral analyses were made of waters sampled at various points in the public supply system. These proved that there was an undesirable excess of deposited iron ore in the Woodloes water and pumping was stopped in order that this well could be cleansed. As it was found possible to dispense with this supply, it was not put back into service. The pump house is isolated and labour costs were high; the pumping engines were old and gas-fired and the cost of replacing them and installing electricity were out of all proportion to the yield of the supply which is merely a large shallow well.

Once again I have experienced kindness and help from the councillors and the fullest co-operation from the Chief Public Health Inspector, his staff and all other departments of the Council. This has been deeply appreciated and I find it a pleasant duty to render my thanks to all concerned.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE.

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Warwick.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

							1959
Population (estimated) Mid-years	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,870
Area	5,057	Acres.					
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£261,269
Product of 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,045
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)					...	...	13.2
" " " " " (corrected)						...	12.9
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births						...	18.7
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)					...	...	12.3
" " " " " (corrected)						...	12.8
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth							
					From Sepsis	...	—
					From Other Causes	...	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	... ..	23.8
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		25.6
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	... ..	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ..	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... ..	—

Population.—There was a loss of 30 in 1959. The excess of births over deaths was only 15. Thus families are not moving into the district in any numbers as they are into the other four districts in the central area of Warwickshire. This stagnation occurs although Warwick is not short of land.

Birth Rate.—This was lower than last year.

Death Rate.—This rose by 2.2 per thousand as compared with 1958.

In 1958 one death occurred from suicide and motor vehicle accidents killed 2 persons. Seven persons died from other types of accident. This year's figures were closely comparable.

Statistics for the past nine years and also for England and Wales in 1959 will be seen under Table II.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH OF WARWICK

Medical Officer of Health :

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

C. T. JONES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

J. BULLOCK,

Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.

Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.

Cert. Institute of Housing.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

S. H. WEST,

Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.

Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.

Cert. R.S.I. for Smoke Inspectors.

Borough Engineer, Surveyor and Waterworks Engineer :

H. S. BROWN, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., Chartered Civil Engineer.

Public analysts :

BOSTOCK, HILL and RIGBY, Birmingham.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES (WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

Infant Welfare Centres (as at June 30th, 1960) :

Lakin Road F.A.P.	... Wednesdays	2—4 p.m.
	Tuesdays	2—4 p.m.
Racecourse	Thursdays	2—4 p.m.

Local enquiries re Home Help, After-care, Health Visiting, Domiciliary Nursing and Midwifery Services to Area Health Office, 38, Holly Walk, Leamington Spa ('Phone 2998 or 2999).

National Welfare Foods are on sale at Child Welfare Sessions or from :—

W. V.S. Office : 3, Jury Street, Warwick.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday ...	Afternoons
Thursday, Saturday	Morning

Mrs. BULL, 51, Stratford Road, Warwick.

Monday 2—3-30 p.m. ; Thursday 5—6-30 p.m.

Ambulance.—The Depot is at Lakin Road F.A.P. (Tel. Warwick 86). 24-hour service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

I am indebted to Mr. C. E. Brown, the Borough Engineer, for much of the following information :—

Water Supply.—The exceptional dry summer with consequent minimum yield from Haseley necessitated the continued bulk purchase of water from the Warwick Rural District Council and Central Hospital during the year. A further delivery point for this supply was introduced in the Hampton Road and the Forbes Estate is now supplied solely by this water. Occasional falls in depth at the Reservoir caused difficulty in the maintenance of constant pressures throughout the Borough. However, with the renovation of the main Booster in the Birmingham Road this defect was overcome.

Consumption for year 280,240,000 gallons.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Some overloading of Sewers have been indicated in the Cape and Emscote Areas. However, thorough cleansing of the respective sewers has effected a satisfactory remedy. The pump areas of the Percy Estate Sewerage have now been brought into operation.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.—Satisfactory collection of refuse has continued. The bulk collection from the Percy Estate Maisonettes has proved satisfactory. Preliminary enquiries have been conducted as regards the future disposal of refuse in Warwick.

Housing.—Both private and municipal housing development has continued. In addition to the Percy Estate the West End re-Development scheme has progressed to part completion. Further municipal building in Linen Street and Saltisford has been commenced. An experiment in direct labour construction has been introduced in the building by this method of two Old People's Flats on the Forbes Estate.

Rivers and Streams.—Generally the rivers and streams in the Borough have been running clear and no serious flooding has taken place. However, certain low lying areas on the Forbes Estate give rise to apprehension in the event of heavy rain fall.

Sewage Disposal.—Satisfactory effluent has been obtained throughout the year.

Swimming Baths and Paddling Pool.—Preliminary investigations for an Open Air Swimming Pool have been carried out with the object of the introduction of Swimming facilities early in 1960.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 (SECTION 31)

Tuberculosis Milk Investigations.—Routine milk samples were taken by authorised officers of the County Council within the Borough and sent for biological examination. Results were obtained from samples taken as follows :—

<i>Designation of Milk</i>	<i>Total No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
	<i>of Samples</i>	<i>Positive</i>
	1959	1959
Pasteurised	3	Nil
" Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) "	—	—
" Tuberculin Tested "	4	Nil
Non-designated	1	Nil

This information has been given by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1950

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1951	...	3	4	1	14	1	1
1952	...	—	7	—	3	3	11
1953	...	—	7	—	6	6	10
1954	...	—	7	—	8	1	15
1955	...	—	7	—	5	—	10
1956	...	—	5	1	9	—	10
1957	...	—	6	—	20	8	8
1958	...	—	12	—	9	1	—
1959	...	—	28	—	10	—	—

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the notifications for 1959.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of notifications was this year unusually high but in no case was it necessary to remove the patient to hospital. Possibly the prevalence of the disease was helped by the fact that many families do not trouble to isolate patients treated at home for a sufficient period.

Other diseases.—Apart from ten cases of pneumonia there was little of note in the rest of the notifications received.

Vaccination and Immunization

Poliomyelitis.—It is not possible to give figures for the Sanitary District but it is known that there was wide acceptance of the scheme for those under fifteen. For those older in age the scheme had less appeal. One must urge all concerned to come forward now. There is no point in waiting until some future epidemic and then joining in a panic rush for an inoculation which may then have insufficient time in which to act.

<i>Diphtheria Immunization</i>	1957	1958	1959
Schoolchildren (Primary) ...	13	18	12
Schoolchildren (Booster) ...	171	188	249
Under school age ...	165	175	190

<i>Whooping Cough Vaccine</i>	1957	1958	1959
Infants protected	154	182	194
<i>B.C.G. Vaccine (Tuberculosis)</i>			
Persons inoculated (con-			
tacts)	31	32	16
13-year-old scholars inoculated			
under student scheme ...	—	—	163

No X-ray survey was carried out this year but the Miniature X-ray Unit is at Leamington Spa one half day each month for the purpose of X-raying the chests of patients referred by local doctors. It is hoped to have a large scale public survey in 1960.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1959

Age Periods	New Cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	1	1	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	7	4	—	1	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis.—The following table gives the incidence of Tuberculosis for the period 1939-1959 :—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Cases ...	32	27	22	12	11	38	29
Deaths	8	9	13	10	13	11	12
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Cases ...	20	31	20	20	21	22	32
Deaths	9	8	14	6	6	8	1

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Cases ...	40	24	28	23	27	20	22
Deaths	3	3	5	3	1	—	—

7 patients were admitted to Sanatorium and 12 patients discharged during the year. There is now no problem of notified patients having to wait for admission to hospital.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 of this Act provides that where persons—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, and the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place e.g. hospital. Seven days clear notice must be given of the intended application and it must also be given to the person managing the premises. The order, if granted, may authorize a person's detention for a period not exceeding three months.

Three cases were under investigation during 1959.

Case 1.—Mrs. E——. This case was noted in last year's report and its further progress confirmed the opinion then expressed that the difficulties arising with neighbours and others were an expression of an untreated mental illness.

Case 2.—Miss T—— (76) was removed to Lakin House by order of the Court early this year. After three months had elapsed, the Council saw fit to make a fresh application for the order to be extended so as to cover a further period of detention. Later, as the old lady had settled down there the order was allowed to lapse and she has remained there voluntarily being unable to find anyone to live with her at home as a companion or housekeeper.

Case 3.—Mrs. F—— (73). Help was sought by relatives in caring for an elderly lady who was spending a lot of time in bed unnecessarily and ceasing to take any pride in personal appearance or habits. The question of admission to a home was referred to the Area Welfare Officer.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Council of the Borough of Warwick

MR. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting a report upon the work of my department during the year ended 31st December, 1959.

It will be seen that inspections for the purposes of the Housing Act again occupied most of the time as the Council's slum clearance programme proceeded at a quickened pace. The appointment of an assistant to help with the increased housing work permitted systematic house-to-house inspections to be resumed in a limited way.

Inspections and visits for the purposes of the Selection of Tenants Sub-committee were again combined with statutory housing duties. As many families were moved from unfit houses during the year, the advantages of combining these two divisions of housing work were more than usually marked.

HOUSING

SLUM CLEARANCE

The following summary shows the progress made since 1945 in clearing unfit houses :—

		<i>From 1945 to 1955 (incl.)</i>					<i>Total</i>
<i>Houses demolished</i>	<i>Individual Demolition</i>	1956	1957	1958	1959		
Orders	75	13	12	14	35	149	
In Clearance Areas ...	3	19	15	21	12	70	
		78	32	27	35	47	219

In addition at the end of 1959 there were 129 houses from which the tenants had already moved awaiting demolition.

Houses represented during the year for action under the demolition order provisions of the Housing Act, 1957, totalled 63. In respect of these, 35 demolition orders and 12 closing orders were made, one undertaking not to allow re-occupation was accepted, in 4 cases the Council agreed to purchase the houses and in consequence no orders were made, and in 11 cases the procedure had not been completed at the end of the year. In addition the Saltisford Clearance Area, comprising 19 houses, was confirmed and another area, comprising 19 houses in Market Street and Bowling Green Street was declared a clearance area and submitted for confirmation.

Demolition orders were again made in advance of the opportunity for rehousing and the same unavoidable delay in rehousing resulted as in previous years. Occupiers from 23 of the houses upon which demolition or closing orders had been placed in 1959 were rehoused in the same year and occupiers of 34 houses upon which such orders had been placed during the previous year were also rehoused in 1959. In addition, the occupiers, of 60 houses in clearance areas (principally the East End Clearance Area) were rehoused during the year, bringing the total of condemned houses vacated to 117 for the period under review.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Improvement Grants for the provision of bathrooms, internal sanitary accommodation, hot water facilities, food storage and other improvements for which grants can be made, are now making a substantial contribution to the raising of the standard of many of the older houses in the town. The Council's policy is particularly helpful in this function and is achieving very worthwhile results.

During 1959, 31 dwellings were modernised with the aid of grants, compared with 18 in the previous year; this brings the total to 140 since the inception of the scheme in 1954. At the end of 1959, work was in progress at a further 34 houses—an encouraging total.

Standard Grants, involving fixed payments for the provision of standard amenities, usually at a lower cost than the discretionary grants, are now appearing in these totals, but only four houses were improved with the aid of these standard grants in 1959 and their average cost was £87 10s. The overall average for both standard and discretionary grants remained at about £265 per house.

Improvement Grants again assisted in the preservation of certain ancient timber-framed dwellings and it is now noticeable too, that rows of property are taking on a new look, as opposed to individual houses, owners seeking improvements to their property having seen the effect on the adjoining property.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS AND REPAIRS

Systematic house-to-house inspections for the purposes of Part IV of the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, were resumed during the year. At the close of the year 41 houses on Emscote Road had been so inspected and inspections to cover the older properties in the East Ward were continuing. Comprehensive notices drawing attention separately to (a) matters calling for urgent attention, (b) defects requiring remedy in the interests of good maintenance and (c) lack of amenities, are now being served. As these notices are in the first place of an advisory nature, a fairly long interval is allowed before Statutory action is recommended to enforce compliance. The amount of maintenance work now being undertaken is encouraging and certainly indicates that any considerable increase in the issue of notices would outstrip the capacity for repair work locally.

MUNICIPAL HOUSING

The following summary shows in respect of 1959 (a) new houses built by the authority, (b) families rehoused and (c) municipal dwellings owned by the local authority :—

New houses built	...	...	...	...	167
Families rehoused	...	...	...	...	180
Houses owned by the local authority	...				1,569
Percentage of houses owned to total houses					
in Borough	...	...	...	...	32%
Vacancies occurring in existing houses	...				23
Of the families rehoused there were :—					
From "rooms"	...	...	...		49
From poor and/or overcrowded houses					
not subject to Housing Act Orders					20
From houses subject to demolition					
orders or closing orders or from					
Clearance Areas	...	...	...		111

Population rehoused	560
	(or 5.1 per family)
Families rehoused from serious medical considerations	1

Included in the above figures are 23 cases where the occupiers were old age pensioners, either as couples or living alone.

To promote the fullest use of municipal accommodation 41 exchanges were arranged.

In the fourteen years since the end of 1945, 1,155 families, comprising 4,175 persons have been rehoused, but during the same period there have been 2,121 applications, 73 of these being registered during 1959. Though quite a number of applications are cancelled either at the request of the applicants or through failure to renew, the majority are found to be genuinely made and experience shows that three out of every four have eventually to be satisfied.

The rate of new applications fell below previous years but, in view of the number of houses now being used for rehousing from condemned property, the rate of new building was insufficient to prevent a lengthening of the waiting period for most applicants.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

One thousand, nine hundred and fifty three inspections were made for the purposes of the Public Health Act. As in previous years, most of the 309 notices issued under the Public Health Act related to dwelling house defects of a general nature and were limited to urgent matters. In 35 cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices.

Action had to be taken during the year in respect of several ruinous buildings including a large three storied detached house. In every case the buildings were either demolished or arrangements made for their demolition, and in the case of the large house, the families in occupation were rehoused by the Council and the building left empty ready for demolition.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY ACCOMMODATION, WASHING ACCOMMODATION AND REFUSE RECEPTACLES

During the period 13 notices requiring choked drains to be cleared or defective drains to be repaired were complied with; 17 notices requiring repairs to water closets received attention; 8 washhouses were rebuilt or repaired; 10 dustbins were provided and 17 accumulations of refuse were removed.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

The Common Lodging House was included in a Clearance Area being part of the West End Clearance Area No. 2 which became operative on the 21st November, 1958, when the Common Lodging House was emptied.

The return for the year was as follows:—

Adults: Males	6,666
Females	330
Total	6,996

This remaining registered common lodging house was finally closed during the year.

VERMIN INFESTATIONS

Rats and Mice.—Systematic investigations to ascertain infestations were continued during the year. The Department dealt with infestations, principally of a minor character, as follows:—

Dwellinghouses ...	...	...	...	...	229
Factories and Offices ...	...	...	...	...	23
Shops ...	...	...	...	...	9
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	9
Hotels and Cafes ...	...	...	...	...	3
Clubs and licensed premises ...	...	...	...	...	1
Allotments and plots of land ...	...	...	...	...	32
Streams ...	...	...	...	...	13

In addition during the year visits were made to hospitals in the Borough on 8 occasions, to the cattle market 5 times, the Council's refuse tip and sewage disposal works were treated regularly, and 28 other properties belonging to the Corporation were inspected and treated for infestations.

Four large blocks of properties were surveyed to deal with rat infestations.

Bed Bugs.—Complaints of bed bugs were again small compared with a few years ago. Apart from issuing insecticides to applicants, the Department treated 10 houses successfully.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Routine observations continued throughout the year. The chimney at the Hospital Board's Lakin House continued to be one of the principal sources of nuisance, but during the year a scheme was prepared and definite plans were submitted for a new boiler house building.

The Percy Estate Smoke Control Order, 1958, came into force on the 1st November, 1959, and is being generally complied with by the occupiers of houses, both municipal and private, on the Estate. The apparatus installed in conjunction with the Warwickshire Clean Air Council scheme to ascertain atmospheric pollution has continued in operation throughout the year. Recordings again indicated that the atmospheric pollution in the Borough was light.

During the year samples of air were taken in the main street of the town which takes all through, in addition to, local traffic. The samples were intended to ascertain the amount of pollution from the exhausts of vehicles. The results showed that, although the traffic was reasonably heavy when the samples were taken, pollution was light.

Complaints have been received of nuisance from two foundries in the town being caused by grit, dust and odours. In one case the nuisance arose after the foundry had finished production and appeared to be due to failure by the firm concerned to ensure that the fumes were extracted and dispersed quickly and not left to concentrate in the building and seep slowly into houses in the neighbourhood. Remedial measures were taken by the firm to counteract the nuisance.

The nuisance from the other foundry was aggravated by the excessive rebuilding and re-organisation being carried out by the firm which led to parts of the existing structure having to be taken off or removed. This meant that fumes and grit escaped readily into the atmosphere and caused considerable nuisance. Complaints were also being received of excessive noise from the same foundry, and this, coupled with the nuisance from grit, dust and fumes, has caused con-

siderable controversy between the firm and the occupiers of houses in the area. Complaints were even received from occupiers of houses in the neighbouring Borough. The matter has received the attention of the firm who are as anxious to remedy the nuisance as your officers. The nuisance has also received the attention of the Alkali Works Inspectorate and a considerable number of joint meetings have been held amongst all the interested parties. By the end of the year the nuisance had abated slightly as the work of rebuilding continued, but the position was still not satisfactory and will not be until all the improvements are completed.

Complaints were received during the year of nuisance of fumes and grit from the chimney of a new High School recently opened in the Borough. The matter was taken up with the County authorities and as a result the height of the chimney was increased and an apparatus was installed in the flues to give warning of black smoke. At the same time as the warning, additional draught to the fire was brought into being temporarily. As a result the nuisance was abated.

During the year notification was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government that the Warwick Generating Station of the East Midlands Electricity Board was now registered under the Alkali Act and was, therefore, now directly under the control of the Alkali Works Inspectorate.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT PUBLIC HOUSES AND PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

The sanitary accommodation at the cinema and at licensed premises generally was found to be of a good standard and well maintained. At five licensed premises the accommodation was improved after representations to the owners concerned.

CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

A total of seven inspections during the year was made for the purposes of sections 268 and 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Two notices were issued requiring owners to discontinue the use of unlicensed sites for caravan purposes. At the end of 1959, six licences permitting the stationing of caravans were in operation in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the year covered by the report, additional sanitary accommodation was provided at two factories, the existing accommodation was improved at 2 factories, ventilation and heating improvements provided at 3 factories and general cleanliness improved at one factory. At the end of 1959, the Register included 122 factories, 89 having mechanical power, 19 without mechanical power and 14 other premises.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

One business in Warwick has been registered as required by this Act, and regular inspections are made of the premises.

During the year the owner and the occupier of the premises have been called upon to make fairly extensive alterations and to carry out substantial repairs.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspections and re-inspections of shops continued during 1959. The following improvements were made at shops during the year : sanitary accommodation improved at 6 shops ; improved washing facilities at 6 shops ; improved ventilation at 2 shops ; structural improvements at 3 shops. At the end of 1959, certificates of exemption from the necessity to provide sanitary accommodation were in operation at six shops.

TERMINAL DISINFECTION

Five houses were disinfected following removal of patients to hospital or at the request of occupiers. Four lots of bedding were disinfected or destroyed. A total of 45 investigations were made following notifications of infectious disease.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Registers.—The following make up the current registers for 1959 :—

Milk distributors	19
Dairies other than farms	4

DAIRIES

Dairies were inspected regularly and were maintained at a good standard.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949

The following licences were in operation :—

Dealers' Licences to use the designation :—

" Tuberculin Tested "	12
" Pasteurised "	12
" Sterilised "	7

Supplementary Licences to use the designation :—

" Tuberculin Tested "	3
" Pasteurised "	3
" Sterilised "	3
" Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised "	1

INSPECTION OF FOOD AT RETAILERS' SHOPS

Visits made to food premises during the year under review were—**261** to retail food shops and similar premises ; **116** to premises used for food preparation ; **45** to ice cream premises and vehicles and **30** to hotels. Food found to be unfit for human consumption weighed **9 cwt.** **12 lbs.**

The enforcement of the regulations and of the byelaws concerning the manufacture, preparation and storage or sale of foods have continued throughout the year. It was again not possible to carry out comprehensive survey of all premises, but inspections were made as frequently as possible. In several instances, owners or occupiers were called upon to carry out extensive alterations, and repairs. Such properties included a factory occupied by a bottling firm, a wet fish retailing business and, in addition, the attention of the Council has been drawn to the very poor catering facilities at Warwick Racecourse.

Attention was directed to the need for stricter cleanliness at food premises and in 20 instances conditions were improved. Three traders were required to provide protection for food displayed in the open air, and several owners and other persons connected with the transport of meat and other foods were warned of the necessity to provide greater protection and to exercise stricter cleanliness. In all 55 notices were issued and 38 were complied with.

The following is a summary of the principal improvements made during the year under review:—

Restaurants, Cafes, Canteens and Snack Bars.—New washing facilities at 2; improved sanitary accommodation at 2; other structural improvements at 7; improved equipment at 7.

Butchers, Bakers and Confectioners Shops.—Three shops redecorated; improved washing facilities at 3; improved equipment at 2.

Greengrocers Shops.—New washing facilities at 4; 5 shops redecorated.

Wet Fish and Fried Fish Shops.—Improved washing facilities at one; one shop redecorated; one requiring extensive alterations.

Sugar Confectionery Shops.—New washing facilities at 2; 3 shops redecorated.

Hotels and Boarding Houses.—Improved washing facilities at one; redecorations at one; structural improvements at 2; improved equipment at 2.

Grocers Shops and General Shops Retailing Grocery.—Two shops redecorated; improved equipment at 2.

Market Stalls and Mobile Canteens.—These are inspected regularly, particular attention being given to the protection of foodstuffs. Canteens and food stalls at Warwick Mop and the Racecourse were inspected. As in previous years vehicles and stalls were approved and where necessary, enquiries were made to other local authorities concerning registrations, before any Food Vendor was allowed to trade at Warwick Mop.

Ice Cream Premises and Vehicles.—Seven premises were registered in 1959; there were 60 premises in the Borough registered for the sale of ice cream by the end of 1959. Forty-five inspections were made and improvements of a general nature were carried out at 3 premises. The vehicles and equipment of mobile vendors were subject to inspection. Four notices requiring the registration of premises for the sale and storage of ice cream were issued during the period.

A complaint was received during the year of an alleged unsatisfactory state of a packet of tea. The packet was submitted to the Public Analyst who reported that the condition of the tea was due to a conglomerate of minute hairs from the tea plant which, by congealing, gave an unpleasant appearance to the tea.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

As found necessary, shops were visited during the year in connection with the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, and Orders made thereunder, concerning correct labelling of foods displayed for sale.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Seven licences to slaughter or stun animals were granted during 1959.

RENT ACT, 1957

During the period 27 inspections were made for the purposes of the Act, 6 Notices of Proposal to issue Certificates of Disrepair and 5 Certificates of Disrepair were served. One undertaking from an owner to carry out repairs was accepted. Two Certificates of Disrepair were cancelled.

WATER SAMPLING

Samples of water were submitted to the Public Analyst and to the Public Health Laboratory Service during 1959 as follows :—

<i>Public Water Supply from</i>					C	B	M
Gathering Ground, Haseley (access points and land springs)					3	3	1
Reservoir, Hatton					3	4	1
Well, Woodloes					4	3	3
Distribution mains					16	30	2
Miscellaneous Wells (Woodloes Area) ...					3	5	2
<i>Other Samples :</i>							
Paddling Pool, St. Nicholas Park					—	4	—
C	—	submitted for chemical analysis.					
B	—	submitted for bacteriological examination.					
M	—	submitted for mineral analysis.					

The results of sampling taken of the public water supply showed that water as delivered at the taps in the town was safe and of good quality. Fairly extensive sampling was carried out over the year and several investigations took place concerning the well and pumping station at the Woodloes and the water supply in that area. Reports showed that the iron content from the well at The Woodloes was often 10 or 20 times in excess of the permissible level for a piped water supply. Furthermore, the system of chlorination carried out to the well was ineffective. Continual pumping at this well had resulted in sludge at the bottom of the well being sucked into the mains carrying the water supply and was adding to the discolouration and unpleasantness of water being received in the Cape and Woodloes area. During the year pumping operations were stopped at the Woodloes Pumping Station and the well was cleansed, but by using water from other sources it was found unnecessary to put the well back into operation. This has led to considerable improvement in the water in the area previously served by the well at this pumping station.

In addition to the sampling of the piped water supply, samples were also taken from various wells in the Woodloes district and in every case the wells were found to be unsatisfactory. The owners and occupiers of cottages were warned to boil all water before using, and consideration was being given by your officers to the practicability of supplying these cottages with a piped supply from the nearest mains to their locality in the Borough.

Samples taken from the Paddling Pool showed the continued need for more effective chlorination and cleansing.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The result of Court Proceedings during the period are as follows :—

<i>Situation of Premises</i>	<i>Nature of Complaint</i>	<i>Notice served under</i>	<i>Result</i>
23, Market Street (Retailer).	Contravention of Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. (Cake containing piece of wire).	Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.	Manufacturers fined £20.
Leam House, Myton Road.	Contraventions of Building Byelaws. (Two).	Building Bye-laws.	Fined £3 on each summons and £2 2s. 0d. costs.
200a, Emscote Road (Retailer).	Contravention of Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. (Loaf contained wood screw).	Food Hygiene Regulations.	Manufacturers fined £10.

In addition one warning letter was sent by the Town Clerk on the instructions of the Council to a person contravening the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

CONCLUSION

During the year consideration was given to the appointment of an Additional Public Health Inspector, but advertising failed to obtain any satisfactory replies. As a result it was decided to appoint an Assistant Housing Inspector to carry out inspections under the Housing Acts and to make reports upon the conditions found. The employment of an additional officer was essential. Whilst a further qualified Public Health Inspector would have been the solution to many inspectorial difficulties throughout the year, nevertheless the work carried out by the Assistant Housing Inspector has been of considerable value in helping to fulfil the Council's obligations under the programme adopted for unfit houses.

The appointment of a junior clerk also helped to reduce the backlog of clerical work in my department and, without this additional help, the clerical work would have failed to keep pace with the inspectorial and administrative side.

I desire to thank the Council for their ready co-operation in seeking to raise the standard of environmental health conditions in the town. My thanks are also due to Chief Officers of other departments for helpful co-operation and to members of my Staff for continued excellent services during another period when the demands upon the Office have continued to be very heavy.

Your obedient servant,

J. BULLOCK,

Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Warwick.

TABLE I
BOROUGH OF WARWICK
SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT DURING 1959

	Inspections and observations		Notices served		Nuisances abated after notice
	1959	made	Statutory 1959	Informal 1959	1959
Dwellinghouses and Schools	...	...	10	226	211
Lodging Houses	...	...	—	1	1
Factories	...	...	—	6	10
Licensed Premises	...	...	—	2	5
Canal Boats	...	...	—	—	—
Water Closets	...	...	3	19	17
Drainage	...	...	11	53	13
Water Supply	...	...	—	5	8
Places of Entertainment	...	...	—	1	—
Caravans	...	...	—	2	5
Dustbins	...	...	—	5	7
Deposits of Refuse	...	...	1	22	17
Pigsties	...	...	—	1	1
Vermmin Infestations	...	...	—	7	3
Shops	...	...	—	6	13
Animals Improperly Kept	...	...	—	1	4
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	—	4	3
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	—	1	3
Bakehouses	...	...	—	3	3
Slaughterhouses, Butchers' and Other Retail Food Shops	...	...	—	18	10
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises	...	...	—	—	—
Premises used for Food Preparation	...	...	—	25	16
Ice-cream Premises and Vehicles	...	...	—	7	5
Miscellaneous Nuisances	...	...	10	41	26
Hotels	...	...	—	1	1
Rent Act	...	...	—	—	—
		TOTALS	35	457	382
		5,816		1959	
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	...	...	...	...	20
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	—
Samples of Water taken	...	...	...	...	86
Lots of Infected Bedding, Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	...	...	4
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	5
Houses Disinfested for Vermin	...	...	...	...	30
Improvement Grant Visits	...	...	...	...	213

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1959
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1950	15,360	241	15.7	5	20.8	176	11.5
1951	15,550	235	15.1	3	12.8	189	12.2
1952	15,510	270	17.4	6	22.2	166	10.7
1953	15,620	238	15.2	3	12.6	171	10.9
1954	15,620	252	16.1	8	31.7	160	10.2
1955	15,670	220	14.0	6	22.2	175	11.2
1956	15,690	245	15.1	2	8.4	153	9.8
1957	15,810	200	12.5	4	20.3	174	11.0
1958	15,900	223	13.5	2	9.3	161	10.1
1959	15,870	210	13.2	5	23.8	195	12.3

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1959.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1959.
(Provisional Figures).

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

				Live Births.	Still Births per 1,000 Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
1959	...	...	...	16.5	20.9	11.6	22.2

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1959.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plague ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	1	.....
Scarlet Fever	28	.....	13	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Typhus Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	10	1	1	1	.....	.....	6	1	1
Malaria ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	3	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	229	8	95	126	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11	.....	1	3	1	4	2	.....	.....
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Food Poisoning ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	286	9	111	145	2	7	10	2	1

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF WARWICK
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1959.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—
2 Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease... ..	1	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	7	2
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	6
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	8	7
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	2
16 Diabetes	—	2
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	12	19
18 Coronary disease, angina	12	10
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	6
20 Other heart disease	10	6
21 Other circulatory disease	4	8
22 Influenza	—	—
23 Pneumonia	8	6
24 Bronchitis... ..	10	2
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	3	2
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	1
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	1
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	2	—
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	1	1
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	5
33 Motor vehicle accidents	2	—
34 All other accidents	1	7
35 Suicide	2	—
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All causes	98	97

